

Amendments to the Claims

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) A transgenic plant comprising a nucleic acid encoding a microbial ~~endocellulase or endoglucanase~~ β -1,4-endoglucanase.

7. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 6, wherein said nucleic acid is stably integrated into a nuclear or plastid genome of the plant and is under control of a promoter active in plants.

8. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 16 wherein the inducible promoter is a wound-inducible or chemically-inducible promoter.

9. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 8 wherein said chemically-inducible promoter is one of a PR-1, PR-1a, PR-2, PR-3, PR-4, and PR-5 promoter.

10-13. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 30, wherein said bacterium is a *Thermomonospora* bacteria.

15. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant according to claim 14, wherein said bacterium is *T. fusca*.

16. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 7 wherein the promoter is an inducible promoter.

17. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 7 wherein the promoter is a constitutive promoter.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 7 wherein said nucleic acid further encodes a targeting sequence.

20. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 19 wherein said targeting sequence comprises a vacuole-targeting sequence.

21. (Currently amended) The transgenic plant of claim 6 wherein the ~~endocellulase or~~ endoglucanase is thermostable.

22. (Previously presented) A transgenic seed obtained from the plant of claim 6.

23. (Previously presented) A transgenic seed obtained from the plant of claim 7 wherein said seed comprises said nucleic acid.

24-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 13, wherein said microorganism is a bacterium or a fungus.